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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

25 MARCH 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Hesperia – Sheriff's Deputy in Critical Condition after Shooting

(U) A shooting at a storage facility in Hesperia has left a San Bernardino County Sheriff's deputy in critical condition. The shooting took place in the parking lot of a shopping center with the deputy responding to reports of an "unwanted subject" at a storage facility Hesperia. An investigation into the incident is ongoing with the subject taken into custody shortly after the incident.

SOURCE: 24 March 2021, NBC Los Angeles

(U) Menlo Park – Facebook Claims Chinese Hackers Used Platform to Hack Uyghurs Abroad

(U) Facebook claims that hackers based in China used the social media platform as part of a campaign to hack and spy on diasporas of Uyghurs living in the US, Australia, Canada, Turkey, and multiple other countries. Facebook stopped short of directly blaming the Chinese government for sponsoring the campaign but did say the hackers are part of the same operation that cybersecurity firms cited an affiliation with the Chinese government. The hackers used Facebook to identify, track, and send malicious links to Uyghur activists, dissidents, and journalists. Multiple investigative reports show that China maintains re-education camps that detain an estimated one million Uyghurs in the Xinjiang region. SOURCE: 24 March 2021, NBC News

(U) Sacramento County – Escaped Inmate from Nevada Suspected in Sacramento County Homicide

(U) Authorities in Sacramento County arrested a man who escaped from a minimum-security prison in Nevada on suspicion of homicide. Sacramento County Sheriff's deputies responded to a welfare check at an apartment to find an unknown man at the location. Deputies attempted to restrain the subject and he became combative and resisted. After detaining the suspect, deputies discovered the man who lived at the residence dead. A homicide investigation is currently underway.

SOURCE: 24 March 2021, MSN

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Mexico – US to Open Emergency Shelters to House Migrant Children

(U) Juarez – The Biden administration plans to open at least six emergency facilities to house migrant children streaming through the US border. More than 16,000 migrant children are currently in US custody, with 3,000 of those in the hands of Border Patrol. The Border Patrol is encountering about 530 unaccompanied minors every day. Mexico has stepped up immigration enforcement along its southern border with Guatemala as US officials visit the region to explore ways to reduce the flow of migrants. SOURCE: 24 March 2021, CBS News

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia - New Court Documents Allege Oath Keepers, Proud Boys Planned Riot

(U) Washington – Newly released court documents allege extremist groups worked together in the weeks leading up to the 6 January insurrection at the US Capitol. In court filings, prosecutors included

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Facebook messages in which an Oath Keeper suspect discusses coordination with other extremist groups planning to be in Washington on 6 January. The suspect also discussed tactical planning between Oath Keepers and Proud Boys along with his disdain for DC police officers.

SOURCE: 24 March 2021, WUSA

(U) Georgia – Man with Five Guns and Body Armor Arrested at Publix in Atlanta

(U) Atlanta – Authorities in Atlanta arrested a suspect carrying five guns and wearing body armor at a Publix grocery store. A witness noticed the unidentified man as he walked into the store with a rifle and went directly into the bathroom. The store manager called law enforcement, who detained the man as he exited the bathroom. Officers found the man carrying two long guns and three pistols, detained him, and the suspect is currently undergoing a mental health evaluation.

SOURCE: 24 March 2021, MSN

(U) New York - NYPD Issues Alert to Officers after Recent Mass Shootings in Boulder, Atlanta

(U) New York City – The New York Police Department issued an alert to officers after recent mass shootings in Boulder and Atlanta. The counterterrorism unit is reminding officers that open areas like grocery stores and outdoor restaurants can be considered high-value targets. In addition, NYPD advised warmer weather and the loosening COVID-19 restrictions nationwide could give people new opportunities for violence after the cancellation of many large-scale events last year. SOURCE: 24 March 2021, ABC 7

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Germany - German Woman Accused of Fighting for ISIS in Syria Arrested

(U) Berlin – German authorities arrested a woman accused of taking her son to Islamic State-controlled territory in Syria and fighting for the extremist group. The woman traveled to Syria in 2016 to join her husband who had left for Germany the previous year and fought for the terrorist organization. After joining the organization, prosecutors accused the woman of allowing her son, 15 at the time, to get firearms training by the group and later used for military operations. Her son was later killed in an air raid and her husband was arrested. Authorities charged her with membership in a foreign terrorist organization, violating her duty of care, and a war crime.

SOURCE: 24 March 2021, Associated Press

(U) India – Maoist Rebels Kill Four Indian Police in Roadside Bomb Attack

(U) New Delhi – Maoist rebels killed four Indian policeman and wounded 14 in a roadside bombing carried out in the Narayanpur district of Chhattisgarh state. Two of the wounded were in critical condition. The area of the attack is a knows stronghold of Maoist rebels, who are inspired by Chinese revolutionary leader Mao Zedong. The group frequently stages hit-and-run attacks against authorities in central and eastern India over decades of resentment.

SOURCE: 23 March 2021, Associated Press

(U) Kenya – Four Killed after Bus Strikes Explosive Device as Al-Shabaab Terrorists Suspected

(U) Mandera County – A suspected improvised explosive device planted in the road killed four people and injured ten on a traveling bus in Mandera County in northern Kenya. Four of the wounded are in critical condition. An investigation into the explosion is underway. Although not immediately clear who was responsible for the attack, Somalia's Al-Shabaab Islamist terrorist faction has targeted the area by attacking security personnel, schools, vehicles, towns, and telephone lines since 2011. The group seeks to pressure Kenya into withdrawing its soldiers from Somalia.

SOURCE: 24 March 2021, Independent UK

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(U) Turkey - Police Arrest 18 ISIS Suspects in Istanbul

(U) Istanbul – Eighteen individuals, 16 of them foreign nationals, were arrested in Istanbul for having suspected links to the Islamic State terror group. Police units launched simultaneous raids on 15 addresses in 10 districts to arrest the suspects, who allegedly operated in the terror group in Iraq and Syria before entering Turkey illegally. Authorities also seized digital materials belonging to the terrorist group in the operation. Turkey attacked multiple times since declaring the Islamic State a terrorist organization back in 2013.

SOURCE: 24 March 2021, Daily Sabah UK

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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